



News for Immediate Release
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**DWR OFFERS FREE BUS TOURS TO
OROVILLE DAM ON SATURDAY, MAY 8**

OROVILLE---As part of Oroville's Feather Fiesta Days celebration, the Department of Water Resources (DWR) will offer free bus tours to Oroville Dam on Saturday, May 8.

Oroville Dam is the key Northern California facility for California's State Water Project. Completed in 1967, the dam created Lake Oroville, with a storage capacity of 3.5 million acre-feet. Lake Oroville is the second largest developed reservoir in California, surpassed only by Shasta Lake in the federal Central Valley Project. The State Water Project provides a supplemental water source for nearly 23 million Californians; irrigation supplies to serve 750,000 acres of farmland; water flows to meet environmental, water quality and fish needs; and flood protection for Oroville and other downstream communities.

On May 8, four Oroville Dam bus tours will be conducted, one each at 1 p.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m. and 4 p.m. Each tour will take about 45 minutes. Tours will originate in downtown Oroville at Montgomery and Huntoon streets, go out Olive Highway to Kelly Ridge Road, onto Royal Oaks Drive, across the top of the dam, returning to Oroville via Oroville Dam Boulevard to Montgomery Street.

A tour guide will be aboard each tour bus. The tour will include tour guide presentations and historic video showing Oroville Dam construction. A spin wheel game will be played in parking lot 'A' where other Fiesta Days activities and vendors will be located.

Persons wishing to take the tour can sign-up at the boarding area in downtown Oroville at Montgomery and Huntoon streets, starting shortly after noon on May 8. DWR staff will be on hand at the boarding area to answer questions regarding the lake, tours and recreational opportunities at Lake Oroville.

DWR staff from the Oroville Field Division will hand out materials recognizing May as Water Awareness Month in California. The purpose of Water Awareness Month is to raise

public awareness of the importance of water in the lives of Californians and encourage wise use of water resources.

Persons wishing more information about the Oroville bus tours on May 8 may call the Oroville Field Division headquarters at (530) 534-2303 then 0 to reach the receptionist.

The Department of Water Resources operates and maintains the State Water Project, provides dam safety and flood control and inspection services, assists local water districts in water management and water conservation planning, and plans for future statewide water needs.

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